

Remarks

Claims 66-88, 151-156, 158, 160, 162-163, 168-171, 173, 177-179, 181, 185-187, 189-192, 197 and 198 are pending.

Claims 160, 162, 169, 170, 173, 181 and 197 have been amended.

Claims 1-65 and 89-129 were previously canceled.

Claims 130-150, 157, 159, 161, 164-167, 172, 174-176, 180, 182-184, 188, 193-196, 199-203 have been withdrawn by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected species. These claims have now been canceled without prejudice to their future prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a divisional application.

The allowance of Claims 66-88, 151-156, 158, 187, 190-192 and 198 is acknowledged. Applicant also acknowledges the objections to Claims 161-163, 172-173, and 180-181.

The Abstract has been amended as requested by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 160, 168-171, 177-179, 185, 186, 189 and 197 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by USP 5,753,948 (Nguyen). Insofar as this rejection is maintained with respect to the claims as amended, this rejection is traversed.

The Examiner maintains that Nguyen discloses the claimed structures, referring to FIGS. 3B and 4.

Nguyen does not disclose a texturizing layer comprising a polymeric material. Accordingly, Nguyen fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of the above-rejected claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

Extension of Term. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Replacement Sheet**ABSTRACT**

Lower electrodes of capacitors composed of a texturizing underlayer and a conductive material overlayer are provided. The lower electrodes have an upper roughened surface. In one embodiment, the texturizing layer is composed of porous or relief nanostructures comprising a polymeric material, for example, silicon oxycarbide. In another embodiment, the texturizing underlayer is in the form of surface dislocations composed of annealed first and second conductive metal layers, and the conductive metal overlayer is agglomerated onto the surface dislocations as nanostructures in the form of island clusters.



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No.	Doccode	Number of pages
1	ELC.	3
2	IDS	2
3	CLM	3
4	ABST	1

Total number of pages: 9

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